

MINUTES
REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OF EDGECOMBE COUNTY
AUGUST 3, 2015 AT 7:00 P.M.
IN THE COMMISSIONERS' ROOM, COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING
TARBORO, NORTH CAROLINA 27886

1. **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN LEONARD WIGGINS AT 7:00 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Leonard Wiggins, Chairman, Mr. Jonathan Felton, Vice-Chairman, Rev. E. Wayne Hines, Mrs. Viola Harris, Mr. Donald Boswell and Mrs. Evelyn Powell.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mr. William Wooten.

OTHERS PRESENT: Mr. Lorenzo Carmon, County Manager, Mr. Mahlon DeLoatch, County Attorney, and Frankie Mungo, Clerk to the Board.

2. **PRAYER.**
Prayer was provided by Rev. Hines.
3. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL.**
Mr. Felton moved to approve the minutes of the July 6, 2015 meeting as presented. Mr. Boswell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

4. **PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

1. **Mr. Wiggins called a public hearing to order to receive citizen input into the identification of economic needs and economic development activities prior to the consideration and submission of a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application.**

Mr. DeLoatch read the public notice as published.

Mr. Carmon stated that staff has not received any in-office comments from citizens. He stated that a second public hearing is required for this item and will be held at the September 8, 2015 meeting.

Mr. Wiggins called for public comments. There being none the public hearing was adjourned.

2. **Mr. Wiggins called a public hearing to order to receive citizen comments and questions relative to the naming and/or renaming of state maintained roads and private lanes as required in the "Ordinance Establishing Policies and Procedures for Addressing all Public and Private Roads in Edgecombe County."**

Mr. DeLoatch read the public notice as published.

Mr. Carmon stated that the Planning Board reviewed this request and recommended its approval.

Mr. Wiggins called for public comments. There being none the public hearing was adjourned.

Mr. Boswell moved to approve the lane name “Jumping Run Creek Lane as recommended by the Edgecombe County Planning Board. Mrs. Harris seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

- 3. Mr. Wiggins called a public hearing to order to receive citizen comments and questions relative to an application for a Special Use Permit submitted by O2 EMC, LLC for the construction of a solar energy system.**

Mr. DeLoatch read the public notice as published.

Mr. Carmon stated that the Planning Board reviewed the application for the Special Use Permit and recommended that it be approved as submitted.

Mr. Wiggins called for public comment.

Mr. Logan Stevens, 3123 N. Davison Street, Charlotte, NC, Project Development with O2 EMC, LLC, came forth and stated that their intent is to lease the land from Mr. Joe Tolson.

Mr. Mike Clark, 3245 NC 111-122 South, Tarboro, NC stated that he owned land adjacent to the project. He asked about the environmental effects from the solar farm project and what will the heat be like in the area and what effect the project will have on the animals in the area.

Mr. Carmon stated that his understanding that there will be no significant impact to the surrounding environment.

Mr. Clark asked if the panels or any other equipment made of hazardous materials.

Mr. Stevens stated that no types of hazardous materials in the panels. He stated that the panels are made out of copper.

There being no further comments the public hearing was adjourned.

Mr. Felton made a motion to approve the Special Use Permit for the construction of a solar energy system on property located on Davistown-Mercer Road near Highway 111-122 South by O2 EMC, LLC as recommended by the

Planning Board. Mrs. Powell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

5. SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS:

A. Mrs. Marva Scott, DSS Director, presented on the local impact of DSS programs.

Highlights:

- Goal to assist children, families and individuals with services they are in need of.
- When unable to assist due to federal or state guidelines, or if the funds are not available they make an assertive effort to connect clients with other outside agencies, partners, churches and individuals who may be able to assist them.
- Required to provide all mandated services through DHHS.
- Administer three non-mandated programs, which are funded through outside entities.
- In the Rocky Mount office they work closely with a program called "Filling in the Gaps"
- In the Tarboro area they work with "Helping Hands Across the Community"

Both are groups of churches that provide financial assistance with utilities, rent, food and medication when DSS is not able to assist it's clients.

- DSS is the lead agent for the Home Community Care Block Grant and receive funding of about \$529,000 from the Department of Aging, which is funneled through the UCP-COG. Grants are awarded to providers who serve those sixty years or older with services such as congregate nutrition, home delivered meals, adult daycare, in-home aid services, transportation, skilled nursing and therapy.
- DSS receives reports of abuse and neglect of children. Social Workers go out and investigate allegations.
- Child Protective Services Unit operates 24 hours per day, seven days a week.
- Foster Care Program.
- Adoption Program.
- Childcare Services.
- Medicaid – one of the largest programs.
- FNS – one of the largest programs.
- Issuance of fishing license.
- Issuance of work permits.
- Voter registrations.
- Spay and neuter program.

B. Mrs. Gloria Lyndaker, Tax Administrator, presented the 2014 Annual Settlement.

Mrs. Gloria Lyndaker, Tax Administrator, presented the 2014 Annual Settlement.

Real and Personal Property 2014	
Net Levy	\$25,761,220.64
Collected	24,208,898.51
Uncollected	1,552,322.13
% collected	93.97%

In comparison

County collection rate	
June 30, 2014	93.28%
June 30, 2015	93.97%
Difference	.69% increase

After questions and comments from the Board Rev. Hines moved to approve the Tax Collector's Settlement as of June 30, 2015, subject to independent audit and to recharge the Tax Collector with the outstanding taxes and the responsibility for collecting the same for the years 2005 through 2015. Mrs. Harris seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

C. Mrs. Alice Schenall, Human Relations Commission Chairperson, was present to provide an update to the Board, highlighting the following:

2013-2015 Impact & Outcomes

- **Developed a strategic plan to identify purpose and prioritize goals in April, 2013**
- **Instituted a form for citizens to address concerns and complaints in August, 2013**
- **Reviewed current ordinance and submitted changes that were approved by Edgecombe County Commissioners in August, 2013**
- **Reached over 1,000 citizens of Edgecombe County through education and awareness events promoting understanding and good will (July 1, 2013—June 30, 2015)**
- **Collaborated with regional and state representatives from NC Human Relations Commissions (Rocky Mount, Wilson and Goldsboro)**
- **Implemented an orientation process for every new member**
- **Organized the first series of Listening Sessions in Fall, 2014, to hear the voice of citizens in 6 of 7 districts in Edgecombe County**
- **Agreed to continue with current programs and explore the need for new programs to promote public interest**

Current Programs: Unity Breakfast, fair-housing efforts, mental health forum, candidates' forum, prayers for peace, youth and parental

involvement and others deemed necessary.

Ms. Jamila Hawkins, Human Relations Commission staff liaison, presented Mrs. Schenall with a plaque for her service on the HRC.

D. Mr. Eric Evan, Assistant County Manager, presented a Twin County Visioning update highlighting:

- Background: Why we started this
- Timeline (started in the Fall of 2011; Study Circles in Spring of 2012; Action Groups formed in Spring of 2013; Twin Counties Vision and Strategic Plan was finalized in Spring 2013; Edgecombe County and Rocky Mount endorsed the plan August 2013.
- List of eight Action Groups and update on the Action Groups
- Action Groups Status
- Implementation Accomplishments
- Crime Prevention and Safety
- Food Economy
- Health & Mental Health
- Job Creation and Talent Development
- Positive Image
- Quality of life in underserved neighborhoods
- STEP: Strategic Twin-counties educational partnership
- What's Next?
 - Present an update to three governing Boards in August 2015
 - Update managers quarterly
 - Community update in fall 2015
 - Support active action groups; jump-start inactive groups
 - Embrace and implement the Positive Image Campaign.

6. PUBLIC PETITIONS.

Mr. Joe Dupree, 10987 US 258 N, Tarboro, NC, came forward to express concerns regarding changes made at the Solid Waste convenient centers. He stated that he has to drive five miles to Leggett, six miles to Speed to carry trash. He stated that the last trips he made with lumber he was told by the site workers that they were not taking any lumber or boards anymore. He stated that this concerns him, even though he understands the basis to stop the contractors from taking materials to the convenient sites. He asked that this matter be re-evaluated before people start dumping trash in the woods.

Mr. Wiggins agreed, as well as Board members, that the matter should be further looked at and re-evaluated by staff.

7. OTHER BUSINESS:

A. Approval of budget amendments.

Mr. Felton moved to approve the budget amendments as presented. Rev. Hines seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

B. Proclaiming August 9 through 15, 2015 as National Health Care Center Week.

Mr. Carmon stated that Community Health Centers provide primary, dental and preventative care services all across the U.S., including here in Edgecombe County. Often they work in partnership and/or complement to the Health Department. He stated that Freedom Hill, OIC Family Medical Center and Rural Health Group are three such centers that provide services in and around Edgecombe County. Mr. Carmon recommended that the Board adopt the proclamation to designate August 9th through 15th as National Health Center Week in Edgecombe County.

Rev. Hines moved to designate August 9 through 15, 2015 as National Health Care Center Week. Mrs. Powell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

C. Approval of an amendment to the Edgecombe County Pay Plan.

Mr. Carmon stated that a Classification and Compensation study was completed in September of 2009 with the goal of bringing the County's salaries to a more competitive range. Having a salary plan with grades and steps would also allow the County to implement a merit-based pay system, if we so chose. He stated that the intent was to implement the plan in stages in order to spread the cost burden over multiple fiscal years. Unfortunately, because of budget constraints, we were only able to implement the first step of the plan. Mr. Carmon stated that being that the County will not likely be able to afford to fully implement the pay plan, nor be able to institute a merit-based pay system, at least in the foreseeable future, we feel it would be best to simplify the pay plan and he recommended that the Board approve the proposed pay plan.

Mr. Boswell moved to approve the pay plan as presented. Mr. Wiggins seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

D. Approval of an amendment to the Animal Control ordinance.

Mr. Carmon stated that concerns were raised at the Board's last meeting regarding vicious dogs and our ability to protect the citizens. The County does not have an ordinance that requires citizens to keep dogs on a leash. He stated that, at this time, it is not recommended passing such an ordinance because it would be extremely difficult to enforce. Mr. Carmon stated that a citizen may be fined for various violations to the current animal control ordinance. He stated that staff believes that increasing the penalty, as well as shortening the number of violations required before an animal is taken, will encourage compliance and better protect the citizens. The proposed penalties go from 1) written warning, 2) \$200 fine, 3) \$400 fine and loss of animal. Mr. Carmon

stated that in order to make the proposed changes a public hearing must be held to give citizens the opportunity to comment.

Rev. Hines moved to call for a public hearing at the Board of Commissioners September 8, 2015 meeting regarding the proposed changes to the animal control ordinance. Mr. Harris seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

E. Approval of creating a Solid Waste/Landfill Supervisor position.

Mr. Carmon recommended that one of the Landfill Truck Driver positions be eliminated and be replaced by a new Solid Waste/Landfill Supervisor position. The truck driver position was a grade 9 and we are proposing that the supervisor position be established at grade 10.

Mr. Felton moved to approve the creation of a Solid Waste/Landfill Supervisor position as presented. Rev. Hines seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

8. PLANNING BOARD REPORT. *Received*****

Ms. Cynthia Jenkins presented the Planning Board report.

A. Action items:

1. Approval of minutes.
2. Proposed rezoning request from staff The Franklinton Center at Bricks, located at 281 Bricks Lane, Whitakers, NC to rezone property from CU (Conditional Use) to OI (Office and Institutional).

(Action Recommended: The planning board voted to forward this request to the Board of Commissioners to call for and hold a public hearing on September 8, 2015)

Rev. Hines moved to call for and hold a public hearing on September 8, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. regarding the zoning change request. Mr. Boswell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

3. Review of Planning Board Bylaws and Rules of Procedure.
4. Next meeting scheduled for August 17, 2015.

9. CONTRACTS FOR REVIEW AND/OR APPROVAL.

Mr. Felton moved to approve the contracts as presented. Rev. Hines seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

10. AFTERLISTS AND RELEASES FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL.

Mr. Felton moved to approve the afterlists and releases as presented. Mr. Boswell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

11. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS FOR REVIEW.*Received*****

- A. Water Services.
- B. Veterans Service.
- C. CDBG Quarterly Progress Report.

12. MANAGER'S REPORT.***Received***

- A. Financial Summary report.
- B. Economic/Workforce Indicators.

13. COMMISSIONERS' REPORT.

Mr. Felton moved to designate Mrs. Harris as the voting delegate at the 2015 NCACC Conference. Mr. Boswell seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

14. ATTORNEY'S REPORT.

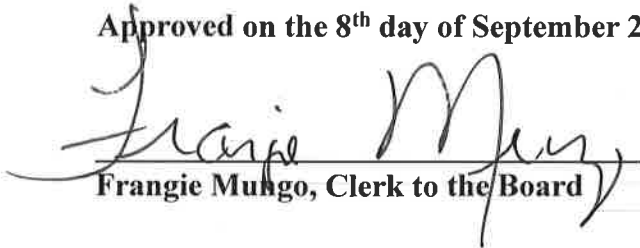
15. CLOSED SESSION.

Mr. Felton moved to enter into closed session to discuss economic development, personnel matter and a legal matter. Rev. Hines seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

Mr. Boswell moved to go out of closed session and resume the regular meeting. Mrs. Harris seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

16. REV. HINES MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING UNTIL TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2015 AT 7:00 P.M. (MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2015 IS LABOR DAY.) MRS. POWELL SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Approved on the 8th day of September 2015.


Frankie Mungo, Clerk to the Board